



Winnipeg Public Library Weeding Statement

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Winnipeg Public Library Weeding Statement

Statement of Purpose

Winnipeg Public Library strives to provide access to a collection that meets the diverse information and recreational needs of the citizens of Winnipeg.

This Weeding Statement:

- describes the principles that guide the weeding of materials
- outlines how material is weeded from the Library collection
- describes who is responsible for weeding the Library collection
- explains how the Library disposes of weeded materials

Philosophy of Weeding

The Library's collection is dynamic, as new items are added continually, and there is an ongoing need to use library space effectively. Weeding materials is an important component of collection maintenance, as it frees up shelf space and contributes to a more accessible and inviting collection.

Weeding is done to:

- create a collection which reflects current and anticipated community needs
- remove outdated, inaccurate, and duplicate materials from the collection
- remove worn or unused materials from the collection
- ensure that the collection is attractively displayed
- utilize the available space in the library

Collection Maintenance and Weeding Criteria

The weeding process creates a more accessible and inviting collection, with increased turnover and use.

Factors considered when weeding materials include, but are not limited to:

- frequency of circulation and use
- poor condition
- inaccurate or outdated information
- number of copies in the collection
- availability of copies in other locations
- local and historical significance
- relevance to the needs and interests of the community and current demand

- availability of other material on the subject

Collectability or rarity is not a major component of the Library's collection responsibility.

Responsibility for Weeding

Professional librarians and library staff decide when unused items, unnecessary duplicates, and outdated, worn, or damaged materials are to be removed from the collections. The same evaluation process used to select materials is also used to weed them.

Disposition of Weeded Materials

In general, weeded materials are sold in a book sale, donated to non-profit organizations, or if unsuitable for sale or donation, sent to recycling. Book sale profits are used to purchase new materials. Records for these items are removed from the library catalogue.